

The Cresco City Council met March 21, 2011, at 7:00 pm at City Hall. Council members Blake, Bouska, Loveless, McCarville, and Moore were present. No Council members were absent.

It was moved by Moore to approve consent agenda, which included approval of: the agenda; claims; minutes of the March 7, 2011, City Council meeting; and minutes of the March 7, 2011, work session. The motion was seconded by Loveless and passed all ayes.

Public Works Director Rod Freidhof reported on: (a) nuisance buildings: City Attorney Joe Braun has been unable to find current addresses for the owners of two nuisance buildings, so a public notice will be placed in the paper; (b) Bob's Electric started on the CT box at the sewage plant and outside switches for heat tape at City Hall and the Theatre; (c) Mr. Freidhof and Street Superintendent John Schmauss met with Neil Schaffer of the NRCS about the discharge from the sink hole near the County garage into Silver Creek. The Silver Creek project funding has been approved, so Mr. Schaffer will write a grant proposal for our share of the work; (d) Mr. Freidhof, Deputy Clerk Denise Sheehy and Fireman Mike Born will attend a two-day class for public information officers; (e) ads have been placed for summer help for the Street and Water Departments; (f) Mr. Freidhof found that Harlan, Iowa, is willing to sell a used jet truck for \$35,000. The City has budgeted \$60,000 for the truck and a shelter in the next fiscal year, and Harlan is willing to wait for payment until July, so this will be a substantial savings, especially since the truck is slightly smaller than anticipated and will fit in the current garage area; (g) the Theatre Commission is planning on starting a fundraiser to help raise money for a replacement projector and asked if the City would be willing to pay for cementing the sidewalk in front of the theatre if some sort of stones or bricks were used to recognize donors. The Council asked Mr. Freidhof to get additional information and place the item on the agenda of the next Council meeting; (h) the south lift station, which was retrofitted in 1998, developed piping/check valve problems over the weekend. Wastewater Superintendent Ron Hyberger is seeking bids for the repairs.

Police Chief Mark Kissinger reported that there has been no unusual activity.

On behalf of City Clerk Michelle Girolamo, Mr. Freidhof reported that, due to the unexpectedly low bids on the sewage plant sludge project, we have borrowed more than we need and the excess can be used for other projects, since there is a minimum amount on the bond. Blake asked that part of the excess be set aside for contingencies on the sludge project.

Jeff Wilson was not present to discuss water drainage issues on Short Street, so that agenda item was tabled.

Mayor Bohle opened a public hearing on proposed plans, specifications, form of contract and estimate of costs for said improvements for the construction of wastewater treatment plant sludge handling and storage improvements. There were no comments, and Mayor Bohle closed the public hearing.

Eric Tourdot of WHKS (the City's engineers) presented the bids for the sludge storage project, as follows: (1) Magney Construction, Inc.: \$568,600; (2) Winona Mechanical, Inc.: \$574,000; (3) Wapasha Construction, Inc.: \$584,000; (4) Wicks Construction, Inc.: \$601,160; (5) Brennan Construction Co.: \$613,214.71; (6) Staab Construction Corp.: \$623,000; (7) Gridor Construction, Inc.: \$680,000; and (8) Kehe Construction Co.: \$728,800. These compared to the engineer's estimate of \$725,000. On behalf of WHKS, Mr. Tourdot recommended that the City accept the bid of Magney Construction, Inc., saying that WHKS had worked with Magney before and found the company to be responsive. McCarville moved the adoption of a resolution approving the contract and bond for the construction of wastewater treatment sludge handling and storage improvements, awarding the contract to Magney Construction. Loveless seconded the motion, which passed all ayes.

Mr. Freidhof noted that WHKS has told him that they would be able to do the feasibility report for 5th Street South East for \$4,900 (instead of \$8000) if the assessment portion were omitted. Bouska moved the adoption of a resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into a professional services agreement with WHKS for this reduced project. The motion was seconded by Blake and approved all ayes.

Mr. Freidhof and Chief Kissinger recommended that changes be made to Chapter 51 of the City ordinances, including removal of the paragraph (51.01 2.F) that declares "any vehicle which has not

been moved under its own power or used as an operating vehicle for a period of seven (7) days or more" to be a "junk vehicle." Spirited discussion followed, with Bouska noting that this was the only way for the City to act on vehicles left unmoved for long periods and causing blight. McCarville noted the hardship that the current form of the ordinance has caused elderly residents who do not use their cars regularly. The Council requested Mr. Freidhof to seek examples of how other cities handle this problem.

Mr. Freidhof presented material on the National League of Cities Service Line Warranty Program. If the City were to endorse this program, residents would be able to purchase a warranty covering the water and sewer lines connecting their houses to the City mains. Mr. Freidhof reported that he had contacted several cities using the program and they had 10-30% participation and were very satisfied with the program. He also reported that City Attorney Braun had expressed concerns about City endorsement of a private company's operation. Moore related that such a program would have been very useful when his sewer line was damaged. Bouska noted that warranty programs tend to be significantly overpriced and requested that financial statements for this program be obtained. Mr. Freidhof was directed to discuss the program further with Mr. Braun and to ask the Iowa League of Cities for the program's financials.

Mr. Freidhof reported that five people had signed up for the community gardens. After discussion, the sense of the Council was to proceed with the program on a trial basis. Mr. Freidhof was directed to ask local yard businesses about charges to till up the sod.

It was moved by Moore to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Loveless and passed all ayes. The next Cresco City Council meeting will be held April 4, 2011, at 7:00 pm at Cresco City Hall.

Mayor Mark Bohle

City Clerk Michelle Girolamo

Following is a list of claims approved for payment:

AceOps	training cd	59.00
Advanced Systems	maint contract	50.18
Alber, Gilbert	deposit refund	96.22
Alliant Energy	electricity	573.44
Alum-Line	freight	59.93
Aramark	mat service	262.68
Baker & Taylor	books	521.90
BC/BS	health insurance	21,038.50
Black Hills Energy	natural gas	362.54
Brown Supply	shovels, supply	154.50
Brownell's Inc.	supply	131.84
Cardmember Services	dvds, envelopes	451.24
Carquest	parts	54.55
Casper Plbg	service call	675.86
City of Cresco	utilities	37.95
City of Cresco	apply refunds	157.49
City of Cresco	\$afe-t-fund	2,507.61
CPU	service	459.49
Driftrunners	tourism grant	2,500.00
Elwood Law Office	attorney fee	1,466.25
ERA	lab test	346.24
Fairchild Communications	NDB dues	135.00
Farm Plan aka Fisks	supply	335.26
Fenco Products	repairs, metal	172.84
Follett	tech expense	218.29
Hawkeye REC	electricity	6,565.14
Hawkeye Sanitation	grit pickup	98.61
IA DNR	exam fee	30.00
IA Division of Labor Service	inspection	105.00
IA Police Chief's Assn	conference	100.00
IA Prison Industries	sign	19.50
Ikon Office	copy machine	80.57
Iowa One Call	one calls	23.40
Jacobs Ladder	repair	2,495.00
Lifeguard Store	resale, supply	378.45
Marco	computer expense	275.00
Miller, Willie	refund deposit	50.70
MVTL	wastewater analysis	162.30
Ohloff, Craig	refund deposit	87.59
Ortiz, Roberto	refund deposit	67.95
payroll # 6		59,255.61
petty cash	postage	13.07
Post Office	postage	75.00
Riley's Inc	tech expense, supply	149.00
River City Paving	cold mix asphalt	191.52
Ruppert Inc.	supply	122.65
Signs & Designs	grahics	64.00
Simmering-Cory Inc.	rehab housing	2,400.00
Sportsmith	parts	361.73
TPD	advertising	114.40
Tupy Const	bldg maint	250.00

Tyler Technologies	software maint	9,595.95
Up & Running Electronics	batteries	24.99
US Cellular	phone	368.40
Windstream	phone	61.05

General Fund	38,443.21
General Hotel/Motel Tax	2,500.00
Road Use Tax	9,359.47
Employee Benefits	22,246.51
Emergency Fund	1,016.25
Local Option Tax	435.30
Local Option Tax Project Fund	79.61
Rehab/Housing Fort/Trust	435.83
Equipment/Repair-Fitness	2,400.00
City Park Trust/Donations	2,495.00
Water Utility Fund	13,907.39
Water Deposits Trust Fund	420.00
MSSU Operations	19,447.81
Capital Improvement	1,612.75
Yard Waste Fund	1,616.25

GRAND TOTAL OF FUNDS	\$116,415.38
Revenue Total of funds from 3/8/2011-3/21/2011	\$173,436.33